Targets for Delhi Criminals' which appeared in the Hindu dated July 4, 1991;

(b) if so, the number of old men, women and couples killed by criminals in Delhi during the last three months May to July, 1991, and the steps taken to bring the culprits to book; and

(c) the number of cases in which the culprits have been apprehended and those still at large?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) A news item captioned "Easy targets for Delhi criminals" appeared in the Hindu dated 4th July, 1991. The news item primarily related to the murders of the aged and the elderly people in Delhi.

(b) and (c) In eight cases, two aged men and 6 aged women were murdered by criminals. In 3 of these cases, 4 persons have been arrested. In one case extradition proceedings have been initiated. All efforts are afoot to work out the remaining cases.

Attack on Indian Ambassador at Bucharest

1364. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Ambassador to Romania has been recently shot and injured by sikh militants at Bucharest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the condition of the Indian Ambassador at present;

(d) whether assailants have since been arrested;

(e) which country the assailants belong to;

(f) whether Government propose to prosecute the assailants of Indian Ambassador to Romania according to Indian Penal Code;

(g) if so, give details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether it is also a fact that the activities of the sikh assailants in foreign countries are increasing and lives of Indian diplomats are in danger; and

(i) whether Government propose to strengthen the security belt of Indian Diplomats abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri J. F. Ribeiro, Indian Ambassador in Romania was shot and injured by suspected Sikh militants on 20th August, 1991.

The incident took place in Bucharest at about 1830 hrs (local time) when the Ambassador and his wife were out for a walk close to their residence. One of the assailants, who was travelling in a car, opened fire with a Kalashnikov assault rifle. The Romanian Security personnel accompanying the Ambassador returned the fire following which the assailant fled throwing away his rifle. Simultaneously, three other assailants alighted from the car and opened fire injuring the Ambassador in his right thigh. The security personnel shot dead one of the assailants and overpowered two, one of whom also sustained injury. Mrs. Ribeiro was unhurt. The fifth assailant who was in a separate car also escaped.

(c) The Ambassador is still in the hospital but his condition is improving daily and he has started moving around.

(d) Two of the assailants were arrested by the Romanian Security personnel. Two of the assailants who fled immediately after the incident are yet to be arrested.

(e) The nationality of the assailants has yet to be ascertained as the investigation is still continuing.

(f) and (g) Since the crime was committed in Romania, the assailants will be prosecuted only according to laws in Romania.

(h) Yes, Sir.

(i) The responsibility for the protection of Indian diplomats abroad is that of the host Government. However, we constantly apprise our Missions of all threats to their security and advise them to alert the local Government so that they may provide adequate security arrangements for their protection.

Revitalisation Plan for Shipyards in the Country

1365. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under its consideration any proposal for revitalising the public sector shipyards in the country;

(b) the reasons which prompted Government for making such a programme in the light of the serious economic condition of the country;

(c) the cost involved on this programme and how Government propose to meet it;

(d) the names of the public sector shipyards which are going to be effected by this programme; and

(e) whether this revitalisation programme will make any addition to the exchequer and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e) The two large public sector shipyards under the administrative control of Ministry of Surface Transport, namely, Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin and Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam have been incurring losses since early 1980s. The accumulated losses of these shipyards as on 31st March, 1991 stood at around Rs. 170 crores and Rs. 350 crores, respectively. In order to revitalise the strategic shipbuilding industry and to make these public sector units economically viable, a number of steps are persently under consideration of the Government. These include capital re-structuring, upward revision of Govt. subsidy payable for construction of ocean-going vessels, duty free imports upto 50% of realisable price of vessels etc. It is, however, too early to quantify the cost involved in the revitalisation of the two shipyards and the benefits that may accrue to the national exchequer because these will depend upon the nature of decisions that are finally taken in the matter.

Recruitment of E.D. employees by P and T Department

1366. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a big racket for recruitment of Extra Departmental Employees by the Superintendent, Post Office at Sonepat, Haryana is going on thereby the deserving candidates do not get the jobs and money plays its part;

(b) the number of Extra Departmental Employees recruited since resumption of duty by Shri D. R. Wadhwa, Superintendent Post Offices, Sonepat Postal Division, Haryana.

(c) the number of such employees recruited directly and through the Employment Exchange;

(d) the reasons which compelled for direct recruitment against the prescribed ordain;